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Woodcrest Real Estate Ventures Attn: Steve Powell 1410 Main Street, Suite C Ramona, CA 92065

Biological Resource Letter Report for the Lavender and Olive Project PDS2018-MUP-18-013 on APN: 281-540-38-00

Ramona, San Diego County, California

Dear Mr. Powell,

Blackhawk Environmental, Inc. (Blackhawk) conducted biological fieldwork for the Lavender and Olive Project (Project) on APN: 281-540-38-00 at the intersection of Montecito Road and Montecito Way in the unincorporated community of Ramona in San Diego County (Figure 1) (County of San Diego Initial Consultation Record I.D. PDS2017-IC-17-050 PDS2018-MUP-18-013). This Biological Resource Letter Report (Report) summarizes the results of the survey, existing conditions, and proposed impacts and mitigation, in accordance with the County of San Diego Guidelines for Determining Significance and Survey, Report Format, Content and Mapping Requirements (County 2010). This Report was prepared for the County of San Diego by Blackhawk under the supervision and review of County-approved CEQA Consultant Kris Alberts.

SUMMARY

The proposed Lavender and Olive (L&O) Project includes the softscape development of previously disturbed and developed areas totaling approximately four acres on a 5.016-acre parcel owned by Robin S. Hoffos and Carolyn Hope Hoffos, Trustees of the Hoffos Family Revocable Trust, dated September 8th, 1997. This parcel currently includes a single-family dwelling (SFD), swimming pool, several patios, septic/reserve field (for the residence) and landscaping. The Project is located in Ramona, in north-central San Diego County, north of State Route 67 (SR 67) at the intersection of Montecito Road and Montecito Way. Access via "Driveway 1" to the facility will be located on Montecito Road with "Driveway 2" ingress/egress being accessed from Montecito Way. A driveway for an existing residence off Montecito Way will provide primary access to the Project area with secondary ingress/egress being accessed from Montecito Road. No offsite biological impacts will occur as a result of the Project. The Project is zoned semi-rural residential and located within the areas covered by the draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (NCMSCP), but is with a portion of the Project located within outside the Pre-Approved Mitigation Area (PAMA). The Project is detailed in County of San Diego Initial Consultation Record I.D. PDS2017-IC-17-050 PDS2018-MUP-18-013.



This report provides information regarding existing conditions and performs impact analyses based on the current site design. Additionally, this report also includes a recommended mitigation measure.

A site visit was conducted by Blackhawk biologists Seth Reimers and Ryan Quilley on December 5, 2017 and included a general biological survey and jurisdictional assessment. Two habitat types were identified on-site: disturbed habitat and developed, neither of which are afforded any level of protection under the Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO).

No state or federally threatened and/or endangered plants or wildlife species were observed on-site. A literature review revealed that <u>63</u> sensitive wildlife and seven 16 special-status plant species occur on the Project site and within the vicinity one mile of the Project site. Following the site visit, it was determined that two County-sensitive wildlife species were present. Additionally, seven <u>37</u> sensitive wildlife species and one sensitive plant species have a low to moderate high potential to occur onsite due to the presence of appropriate habitats and/or other conditions.

Impacts to disturbed and developed habitats on-site will occur as a result of the Project, neither of which would be considered significant and would not require mitigation. Potential impacts to sensitive plant and wildlife species with a moderate potential, or present status, to occur on-site will be mitigated by the implementation of a Project-specific pre-construction nesting bird mitigation measure that will prevent the Project from contributing to significantly cumulative impacts to the resources involved.

INTRODUCTION, PROJECT DESCRIPTION, LOCATION AND SETTING

The proposed <u>L&O</u> Project includes the softscape development of previously disturbed and developed areas <u>totaling approximately four acres</u> on a 5.016-acre parcel, <u>located at 633 Montecito Way in Ramona, CA</u>, into a <u>public event space</u>, <u>available to rent seven (7) days a week from 10am to 10pm. Events held at L&O will include: weddings, corporate gatherings, birthdays, community events, and various other social gatherings, with only one event taking place at a time in the venue and no events occurring simultaneously at the Equestrian Center to the north.</u>

The project will be done in a two-phase approach. The first phase will be the Major Use Permit in its entirety. The second phase will be the utilization of the overnight hospitality component, consisting of the vintage trailers (permitted via a Special Occupancy Park Permit) and/or the Bed and Breakfast (B&B). The second phase is estimated to be implemented within, but not limited to, 24 months after the initial opening of L&O. Construction of the facility is estimated to take three (3) months.

Events at L&O will allow a maximum capacity of 225 people, including employees and subcontracted staff. The two owners will host up to 18 guests [14 guests in seven trailers (max two people per trailer) and four (4) guests in the B&B] who have the option to stay a maximum of two nights in a self-contained trailer or at the three-bedroom B&B, prior to and/or after the event, with departure occurring the next day. All food will be prepared off-site and catered via a third-party vendor or prepared within a permitted mobile food vehicle. Alcohol sales will be subcontracted to a third-party vendor as well. Deliveries, caterers, and other third-party vendors will enter "Driveway 2" off Montecito Way. Employees will be on-site based on guests needs, ranging from 5-15 people.



Owners will be responsible for day to day management of L&O, coordination of all third-party vendors, and managing all hospitality responsibilities.

Party equipment, including but not limited to: chairs, tables, decoration, party tent (max. size: 40'x80', weather dependent based on inclement conditions), will be rented from a third-party vendor and considered temporary. Three temporary mobile restroom facilities will be in specific areas to accommodate event restroom needs including ADA accessibility. Guests will be greeted by up to three (3) retired horses under an open top trellis to the south of the circular driveway. Each horse will be removed from the location shortly after the event begins.

All noise generating sources (live music, DJ, background music, etc.) will be in strict compliance with all acoustical requirements of the County of San Diego and will respect all applicable noise curfew time frames. A total of 115 parking spaces, including four (4) accessible spaces, will be located on-site for all guests and employees. Venue employees will manage the parking lot during event hours. Access via "Driveway 1" to the facility will be located on Montecito Road with "Driveway 2" ingress/egress being accessed from Montecito Way.

All potable water will be supplied by the Ramona Municipal Water District, irrigation water will be supplied via an existing well located on the contiguous northern property with a common-ownership easement. The Project area is located in the north-central portion of San Diego County, on the northeast corner of Montecito Road and Montecito Way, within the unincorporated community of Ramona (Figure 1). The property is directly north of the Ramona Airport (RNM).

Sewer disposal for the SFD / B&B will be provided for by an on-site septic system. Sewer disposal for all temporary event restroom trailers will be disposed of off-site. Each restroom trailer contains a holding tank with 200% excess capacity for maximum event occupancy. Likewise, each vintage trailer is self-contained with holding tanks that will accommodate a two day stay for two people. After each event, these trailers will be pumped on-site via a contracted waste vacuum truck. Power will be supplied by San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E). No offsite biological impacts will occur as a result of the proposed Project. The proposed Project site is located within the draft North County Multiple Species Conservation Program (NCMSCP), but and a portion of the proposed Project is located within outside the Pre-Approved Mitigation Area (PAMA).

The Project site is located in a semi-rural residential area, approximately 1.5 miles northeast of downtown Ramona and immediately adjacent to RNM, with commercial and agricultural development interspersed (Figure 1). The northwestern portion of the Project site consists of a single-family residence and recreational spaces, parking areas, and a landscaped yard. The portion of the property that is undeveloped exhibits high levels of disturbance in the form of land maintenance for residential and equestrian use through mowing and mechanical raking for fire fuel modification/reduction and livestock training and grazing. The Project site has been in a developed state, undergoing numerous changes, since at least 1953, as based on a review of available aerial imagery (NETR Online 1953).



REGIONAL CONTEXT

Topography and Soils

The Project is located in Section 17 of the San Pasqual United States Geological Service (USGS) 7.5' Quadrangle, Range 1 East, Township 13 South (Figure 1). Elevation on the Project site ranges from approximately 1393 feet above mean sea level (amsl) to approximately 1412 feet amsl.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Web Soil Mapper was used to obtain soil data for the Project site, indicating only one soil type exists; Bonsall-Fallbrook sandy loams. Results of the property soil analysis are shown in Table 1 below; however, observations during the field survey indicated that the soils have been altered from their natural state through the addition of mulch and horse manure, presumably from equestrian use, resulting in a higher percentage of organic matter in the upper layers of sediment. The soil observed was generally highly compacted as a result of being driven on by trucks pulling livestock trailers.

Table 1. Soils Occurring Within APN: 281-540-14-00

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Percent of Project Site
BnB	Bonsall-Fallbrook sandy loams, 2 to 5 percent slopes	100



Site Survey

Blackhawk Environmental biologists Seth Reimers and Ryan Quilley conducted a field survey of the Project site on December 5, 2017. A pedestrian survey of the entire approximate 5-acre Project site was done, followed by a visual survey of the 500-foot buffer area, due to large portions of it being inaccessible. The survey was conducted between 9:45 A.M and 11:37 A.M. Survey conditions are included in Table 2. The primary focus of the survey was to document and map the size, location and general quality of all habitat types and the presence and/or potential for occurrence of any sensitive resources on-site.

Table 2. Site Survey Conditions

Biologist(s)	Date	Time	Air Temperature (°F)	Wind Speed (mph)	Cloud Cover (%)	Precipitation
Seth Reimers Ryan Quilley	12/5/2017	0945 – 1137	61 – 64	10 - 20	20 - 30	None

Methods included pedestrian surveys using belt and meandering transects spaced approximately 5 to 15 meters apart. Where appropriate, biologists paused at select vantage points to provide full visual coverage of the Project site and survey area. During the field survey, all plant and wildlife species observed or detected were recorded in field notebooks. Binoculars were used as needed to identify wildlife species. Plant species observed were identified to species or subspecies level when feasible according to the nomenclature in *The Jepson Manual:* Vascular Plants of California Edition 2 (Baldwin et al. 2012). Vegetation communities were described according to dominant plant species present and digitized on a high-resolution satellite image of the Project site (Figure 2). Vegetation community mapping was performed following the Guidelines for Determining Significance and Survey, Report, Format, Content and Mapping Requirements (County 2010). The habitat assessment did not include focused or protocol level surveys for any sensitive plant or wildlife species.

Biological Resources Present

Two distinct habitat types were documented within the Project site: disturbed (Tier IV) and urban/developed. A total of 20 wildlife species were observed during the survey, 10 of which were observed in the 500-foot buffer area, but not within the project boundary itself. No wetlands, jurisdictional waters or vernal pools were observed on the Project site.

HABITATS AND VEGETATION COMMUNITIES

A summary of the habitat types and vegetation communities documented within the Project site, including determination of habitat types by acreage, dominant plant species present and overall habitat quality, are included in this section. Information regarding species abundance, composition



and diversity can also be found in this section, in addition to habitat sensitivity levels and regional and local importance of conserving each habitat type. Representative photos of the Project site can be found in Appendix D.

Habitat descriptions are derived from the County of San Diego's Biological Mapping Requirements (County 2010) and Terrestrial Vegetation Communities in San Diego County based on Holland's Descriptions (Oberbauer 2008).

Habitats

The Project site currently supports two habitat types: disturbed and urban/developed (Figure 2), neither of which are considered County RPO Sensitive Habitat Lands or otherwise sensitive by state or federal agencies. A comprehensive list of wildlife and plant species observed during the site survey can be found in Appendix A and Appendix B, respectively.

Disturbed (Habitat Code 11300):

Approximately 3.171 acres of Disturbed Habitat on site is dominated by commonly found non-native annual grasses and forb species, as well as planted ornamental species including Bermuda grass (Cynodon dactylon), Russian tumbleweed (Salsola tragus), smooth barley (Hordeum murinum), cheese weed (Malva parviflora), short-pod mustard (Hirschfeldia incana), slender wild oat (Avena barbata), blue gum eucalyptus (Eucalyptus globulum) and bur clover (Medicago polymorpha). Other plant species observed within this habitat include Canada horseweed (Erigeron canadensis), Peruvian peppertree (Shinus molle), carrotwood (Cupaniopsis anacardioides), smilo grass (Stipa miliacea), curly dock (Rumex crispus), western sunflower (Helianthus annuus), artichoke thistle (Cynara cardunculus), doveweed (Croton setiger), Australian saltbush (Atriplex semibaccata), California sycamore (planted) (Platanus racemosa), prickly sow thistle (Sonchus asper), common sow thistle (Sonchus oleraceous) and Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis). Visible signs of mechanical raking and consistent anthropogenic disturbance were observed within this habitat type, precluding the potential for most sensitive plant and wildlife species. The regional value of disturbed habitat on site is low; having potential for foraging habitat for raptors and use by rodents capable of withstanding frequent anthropogenic disturbance, such as Botta's pocket gopher (Thomomys bottae). Wildlife observed and/or detected within this habitat included Say's phoebe (Sayornis saya), yellow-rumped warbler (Setophaga coronata), bushtit (Psaltriparus minimus), lark sparrow (Chondestes grammacus), western bluebird (Sialia mexicana), white-crowned sparrow (Zonotrichia leucophrys), California towhee (Melozone crissalis), house finch (Haemorhous mexicanus) and Botta's pocket appher (burrows).

<u>Urban/Developed (Habitat Code 12000):</u>

Approximately 1.845 acres of Urban/Developed habited occur onsite in the northwestern portion of the Project site. This developed area consists of residential buildings, recreational spaces, parking areas and a landscaped yard. The developed area includes various landscaped ornamental shrubs and trees, such as jacaranda (Jacaranda mimosifolia), Peruvian peppertree and palo verde (Parkinsonia sp.) distributed around the perimeters of building structures. Wildlife species observed within the developed habitat was limited to house finch and black phoebe (Sayornis nigricans). The



regional value of developed habitat is low, as the developed habitat on-site does not support sensitive species.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

Blackhawk Environmental conducted a database records search centered on the Project site within the USGS 7.5' San Pasqual quadrangle. Overall, a one-mile radius surrounding the Project site was reviewed for sensitive biological resources. The CDFW California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) (CDFW 2017), the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Species Occurrence Database (USFWS 2017) and the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) Electronic Inventory (EI) of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California (CNPS 2017) were reviewed for sensitive plant and wildlife species records in the San Pasqual quadrangle that contains the Project site (Figure 3). CNDDB contains records of reported occurrences of federal and state-listed species, proposed endangered or threatened species, federal Birds of Conservation Concern, California Species of Special Concern (SSC), or otherwise sensitive species or communities that may occur within or in the vicinity of a project area. This database and literature review was used to provide details on potentially present sensitive biological species/resources that have a potential to occur within or adjacent to the Project site, prior to conducting the field survey (CNDDB accessed November 28, 2017).

Initial methods described above focused on the potential for occurrence of sensitive plant and wildlife species. Species were considered sensitive, and therefore subject to analysis in this section, if they met one or more of the following criteria:

- Plant and animal species listed as endangered (FE), threatened (FT), or candidates (FC) for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA);
- Plant and animal species listed as endangered (SE), threatened (ST), or candidates (SC) for listing under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA);
- Animals designated as Fully Protected Species (FP), as defined in California Fish and Game Code Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, and 5515;
- Animal species designated as Species of Special Concern (SSC) by the CDFW;
- MSCP-covered species;
- County of San Diego Sensitive Animals;
- Bat species designated as High Priority (H) by the Western Bat Working Group;
- Plants that are state-listed as Rare¹; or
- Plant species ranked by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) as having a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 1 or 2.²

Sensitive natural communities are communities that have a limited distribution and are often vulnerable to the environmental effects of projects. These communities may or may not contain

 $^{^{1}}$ Plants that were previously state listed as "Rare" have been re-designated as State-threatened.

² Under the CEQA review process, only CRPR 1 and 2 species are considered, as these are the only CNPS species that meet CEQA's definition of "rare" or "endangered." Impacts to List 3 and 4 species do not meet CEQA's definition of "rare" or "endangered."



sensitive species or their habitats. For purposes of this assessment, sensitive natural communities include any of the following:

- Vegetation communities listed in the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), or;
- Communities listed in the Natural Communities List with a rarity rank of \$1 (critically imperiled), \$2 (imperiled), or \$3 (vulnerable).

Utilizing the background data described above, a field survey was conducted to assess the Project site for its existing conditions and its capacity to potentially harbor sensitive biological resources identified in the literature review (target species).

Following the habitat assessment, potentials for sensitive species to occur were evaluated based on proximity, recentness and abundance of known occurrences, availability of suitable habitats, connectivity to source populations and historic distributions of the species. Potentials for occurrence were generally evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Present** The species was observed within the survey area during the survey effort.
- **High** Historic records indicate that the species has been known to occur within the regional vicinity of the Project (1 mile), and suitable habitat occurs onsite.
- Moderate Historic records indicate that the species has been known to occur within the
 vicinity of the Project, but low quality suitable habitat occurs onsite, or; no historic records
 occur within the vicinity of the Project, but the Project site occurs within the historic range of
 the species, and moderate to high quality habitat occurs on or adjacent to the Project site.
- **Low** Historic records indicate that the species has not been known to widely occupy the regional vicinity of the Project, and low-quality habitat for the species exists onsite.
- **Absent** No **Potential** The species is restricted to habitats not occurring within or adjacent to the Project site, or is considered extirpated from the vicinity of the Project.

Sensitive Plants

The literature review resulted in a list of 16 sensitive plant species with the potential to occur on the Project site and in the surrounding vicinity. Due to a lack of suitable habitat types, soil types, elevational restrictions, connectivity to source populations and/or other factors, there is no potential for the following six 15 species to occur on the Project site in areas proposed for direct or indirect permanent or temporary impacts: Robinson's peppergrass (Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii), caraway leaved woodland gilia (Saltugilia caruifolia), Engelmann oak (Quercus engelmannii), largeleaf fillary (Erodium macrophyllum var. macrophyllum), little mousetail (Myosurus minimus), Orcutt's brodiaea (Brodiaea orcuttii), Palmer's grappling hook (Harpogonella palmeri), Parish brittlescale (Atriplex parishii), round-leaved filaree (California macrophylla), rush like bristleweed (Xanthisma junceum), San Diego thorn mint (Acanthamintha ilicifolia), southern skullcap (Scutellaria bolanderi austromontana), southern tarplant (Centromadia parryi ssp. australis), spreading navarretia (Navarretia fossalis) and vernal barley (Hordeum intercedens). Graceful tarplant (Holocarpha virgata elongata) has low potential to occur on the Project site and is further discussed below. The remaining seven 15 sensitive plant species and their potentials for occurrence are further described in Appendix C. A complete list of plant species observed is included as Attachment B.



Graceful Tarplant

Graceful tarplant, a County List D species with a CRPR of 4.2, is an annual herb that occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal sage scrub, and valley and foothill grasslands; typically found below 900 meters. This species typically blooms between May and November and is generally found on heavy soils within mildly disturbed habitat or openings in scrub. The Project site does contain marginally suitable disturbed habitat and soils; however, the nearest CNPS record for this species is approximately 2.4 miles northwest of the Project site. This species was not detected during the field survey (which was conducted outside of the typical blooming period); and given that the site has undergone decades of disturbance and development, and only contains marginally suitable disturbed habitat and soils this species has a very low potential to occur.

Sensitive Wildlife

The literature review resulted in a list of 63 sensitive wildlife species with the potential to occur on the Project site and in the surrounding vicinity. Due to a lack of suitable habitat types, soil types, elevational restrictions, connectivity to source populations and/or other factors, there is no potential for the following 24 species to occur on the Project site in areas proposed for direct or indirect permanent or temporary impacts: arroyo toad (Anaxyrus californicus), Bell's sage sparrow (Artemisiospiza belli belli), coastal California anatcatcher (Polioptila californica californica), California red-legged frog (Rana aurora draytoni), Canada goose (Branta canadensis), coast patch-nosed snake (Salvadora hexalepis virgultea), coastal rosy boa (Lichanura orcutti), Hermes copper (Lycaena hermes), large-blotched salamander (Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi), least Bell's vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus), northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (Chaetodipus fallux fallux), ringtail (Bassariscus astutus), Riverside fairy shrimp (Streptocephalus woottoni), San Diego banded gecko (Coleonyx variegatus abbottii), San Diego desert woodrat (Neotoma lepida intermedia), San Diego horned lizard (Phrynosoma blainvillii), San Diego fairy shrimp (Branchinecta sandiegonensis), Southern arasshopper mouse (Onychomys torridus ramona), southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailii extimus), spotted bat (Euderma maculatum), Stephens' kangaroo rat (Dipodomys stephensi), vermillion flycatcher (Pyrocephalus rubinus), yellow-breasted chat (Ictera virens) and yellow warbler (Dendroica petechial brewsteri). Of the nine 39 remaining sensitive wildlife species identified during the literature review, two were observed on the Project site or in the adjacent survey area [turkey vulture (Cathartes aura, County Group 1 species) and western bluebird (Sialia mexicana, County Group 2 species)], one has a high potential to occur [red-shouldered hawk (Buteo lineatus)], five have moderate potentials to occur [burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia), Cooper's hawk (Accipiter cooperii), monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus), sharp-shinned hawk (Accipiter striatus) and southern mule deer (Odocoileus hemionus) and 31 have low potentials to occur [American badger (Taxidea taxus), big free-tailed bat (Nyctinomops macrotis), California gull (Larus californicus), California horned lark (Eremophila alpestris actia), coastal whiptail (Aspidocelis steinegeri), Dulzura California pocket mouse (Chaetodipus femoralis), ferruginous hawk (Buteo reaglis), fringed myotis (Myotis thysanodes), golden eagle (Aguila chrysaetos), grasshopper sparrow (Ammodramus savannarum), greater western mastiff bat (Eumops perotis californicus), loggerhead shrike (Lanius Iudovicianus), long eared myotis (Myotis eyotis), long legged myotis (Myotis volans), mountain lion (Felis concolor), northern harrier (Circus cyaneus hudsonius), orange-throated whiptail (Cnemidophorus hyperythrus),



pallid bat (Antozus pallidus), pocketed free-tailed bat (Nyctinomops femorosaccus), rufous-crowned sparrow (Aimophila ruficeps canescens), San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (Lepus californicus bennettii), San Diego ringneck snake (Diadophis punctatus similis), silvery legless lizard (Anniella pulchra pulchra), small-footed myotis (Myotis ciliolabrum), Townsend's big-eared bat (Corynorhinus townsendii), tricolored blackbird (Agelaius tricolor), western red bat (Lasiurus blossevilii), red diamond rattlesnake (Crotalus ruber), western spadefoot (Spea hammondii), white-tailed kite (Elanus caeruleus) and Yuma myotis (Myotis yumanensis)]. Species bearing a State or federal threatened or endangered status are further discussed below. All 63 sensitive wildlife species and their potentials for occurrence are further described in Appendix C. Species that are not federally or state-listed, fully protected, Species of Special Concern, MSCP-covered or County of San Diego Sensitive Animals are not evaluated in this report (e.g. Watchlist species). A complete list of wildlife species observed is included as Attachment A.

San Diego Fairy Shrimp

San Diego fairy shrimp are Federally endangered, a MSCP-covered species and a County Group 1 species. It is restricted to vernal pool communities with deeper pools that retain water for medium to long durations. This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project as vernal pools are common throughout the Ramona area. The Project site has been developed since at least 1953 and no vernal pools were observed during the field survey, eliminating the potential for this species to occur.

Riverside Fairy Shrimp

Riverside fairy shrimp are Federally endangered, a MSCP-covered species and a County Group 1 species. It is restricted to vernal pool communities with deeper pools that retain water for medium to long durations. This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project as vernal pools are common throughout the Ramona area. The Project site has been developed since at least 1953 and no vernal pools were observed during the field survey, eliminating the potential for this species to occur.

Arroyo Toad

The arroyo toad is Federally endangered, a CDFW Species of Special Concern (SSC), a MSCP-covered species and County Group 1 species. It occurs in semi-arid regions near washes or intermittent streams, including valley-foothill and desert riparian, desert wash, and similar habitats. This species is typically associated with microhabitats including rivers with sandy banks, willows, cottonwoods, and sycamores; and with loose, gravelly areas of streams in drier areas. Arroyo toads utilize adjacent upland areas for aestivation and have been documented traveling up to 1,640 horizontal feet from occupied breeding habitat to potential use areas (Ramirez 2002). Although the Project site is located within USFWS critical habitat for arroyo toad, a CNDDB data query did not result in any recorded observations within one mile; virtually eliminating the potential for arroyo toad occurrence as no habitat for this species is found within the Project site or in the adjacent areas and the distance from known breeding locations far exceeds the capability of a toad moving to an aestivation site.



Stephen's Kangaroo Rat

Stephen's kangaroo rat is Federally endangered, a State threatened species and a County Group 1 species. It occurs primarily in low-growing annual and perennial grassland habitats, but may occur in coastal scrub or sagebrush with sparse canopy cover and low herbaceous growth, or in disturbed areas. This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site and portions of the site contain very small patches of annual grasses with relatively sparse canopy cover; however, no diagnostic kangaroo rat burrows were observed during the survey. Since burrows were not observed, small patches of minimally suitable habitat and decades of development (frequent mechanical raking and other fire fuel modification practices) this species has no potential to occur within the Project site but could occur in the surrounding areas where it would not be impacted by the Project since there are no off-site impacts.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher

Coastal California gnatcatcher is Federally threatened, a CDFW SSC, a MSCP-covered species and County Group 1 species. It is closely associated with open sage scrub with California sagebrush (Artemesia californica) as a dominant or co-dominant species. Coastal California gnatcatchers have been documented in the vicinity of the Project site; however, suitable sage scrub habitat does not exist on the Project site or in the adjacent areas. Lack of suitable habitat eliminates the potential for this species to occur on the Project site and in the surrounding areas.

JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS AND WATERWAYS

Potentially jurisdictional water resources on and adjacent to the Project site were reviewed on highresolution aerial imagery, topographic maps and the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) database. If potentially jurisdictional features were observed during the field survey, the biologists documented the associated vegetation communities, presence of ordinary high watermarks (OHWMs) or streambeds, substrates, hydrological indicators and potential connectivity to receiving waters. The habitat assessment did not include a formal jurisdictional delineation effort. A small drain pipe terminates in the County-maintained right of way on the north side of Montecito Road and abuts the southwest corner of the Project site. An assessment was performed to determine if the drain outfall Intake qualified as a wetland as defined by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and/or the County RPO wetland. The soils onsite, Bonsall-Fallbrook sandy loams, are not identified on the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) hydric soils list. The vegetation associated with the drain eutfall intake was consistent with the same upland plants as the remainder of the disturbed habitat onsite and was not dominated by hydrophytic plant species. Additionally, the area immediately adjacent to the drain pipe does not contain an etched bed and bank, indicating a lack of hydrology.

Army Corps of Engineers

According to the ACOE Wetland Delineation Manual, wetlands are defined as "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances, do support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for



life in saturated soil conditions."

In accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), ACOE regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the United States. The term "Waters of the United States" is defined as:

- All traditional navigable waters (TNW) currently used, or used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide;
- All interstate waters, including interstate wetlands;
- All other waters such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds; the use, degradation, or destruction of which could affect foreign commerce including any such waters, (1) which could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes; or (2) from which fish or shellfish are, or could be, taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or (3) which are used or could be used for industries in interstate commerce;
- All other impoundments of waters otherwise defined as Waters of the United States under the definition;
- Tributaries of waters identified above;
- The territorial seas; and
- Wetlands adjacent to waters (other than waters that are themselves wetlands) identified in the paragraphs above (33 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 328.3[a]).

Non-navigable tributaries that do not constitute relatively permanent waters (RPW; exhibit at least seasonal flow, typically three months) may be considered Waters of the United States based on significant nexus standards, including an assessment of downstream hydrology and ecological functions of the tributary.

Wetlands are delineated using three parameters: hydrophytic vegetation, wetland hydrology and hydric soils. According to ACOE, indicators for all three parameters must normally be present to qualify as a wetland.

Vernal pools are considered "problem areas" since vegetation or hydric soils may be lacking due to the seasonal filling and drying of vernal pools. As described in the Arid West Supplement, "the species composition of some wetland plant communities in the Arid West can change in response to seasonal weather patterns and long-term climatic fluctuations. Wetland types that are influenced by these shifts include vernal pools, playa edges, seeps, and springs. Lack of hydrophytic vegetation during dry periods should not immediately eliminate a site from further consideration as a wetland." In addition, when soil investigations are performed within vernal pools, vernal pools may also lack hydric soil indicators as they support seasonally ponded soils, described under problem soils as "seasonally ponded, depressional wetlands occur in basins and valleys throughout the Arid West. Most are perched systems, with water ponding above a restrictive soil layer, such as a hardpan or clay layer, that is at or near the surface (e.g., in vertisols). Some of these wetlands lack hydric soil indicators due to limited saturation depth, saline conditions, or other factors."



The ACOE also requires the delineation of non-wetland jurisdictional Waters of the United States. These waters must have strong hydrology indicators such as the presence of seasonal flows and an ordinary high watermark (OHWM). An OHWM is defined as:

... that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as [a] clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas (33 CFR Part 328.3).

Areas delineated as non-wetland jurisdictional waters may lack wetland vegetation or hydric soil characteristics. Hydric soil indicators may be missing because topographic position precludes ponding and subsequent development of hydric soils. Absence of wetland vegetation can result from frequent scouring due to rapid water flow. These types of jurisdictional waters are delineated by the lateral and upstream/downstream extent of the OHWM of the particular drainage or depression.

ACOE Waters of the United States, including vernal pools and non-wetland jurisdictional waters, do not occur onsite due to the absence of indicators such as hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, wetland hydrology, soil depressions and restrictive soil layers.

Regional Water Quality Control Board

RWQCB is the regional agency responsible for protecting water quality in California. The jurisdiction of this agency includes Waters of the State as mandated by the federal CWA Section 401. When CWA Section 404 jurisdiction is not present for isolated water, the RWQCB will assert jurisdiction via the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Waters of the State are defined as "any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state". The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act provides a regulatory framework to provide comprehensive protections for surface and groundwater within the State of California. Waters subject to jurisdiction under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act require that any discharge that may negatively impact or otherwise affect a Water of the State must coordinate with RWQCB.

RWQCB wetlands occur do not occur onsite due to the absence of indicators such as hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation or hydrology.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Under Sections 1600–1607 of the Fish and Game Code, CDFW regulates activities that would divert or obstruct the natural flow or substantially change the bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake that supports fish or wildlife. CDFW has jurisdiction over riparian habitats (e.g., riparian woodland) associated with watercourses. CDFW jurisdictional waters are delineated by the outer edge of riparian vegetation or at the top of the bank of streams or lakes, whichever is wider. Although CDFW does not regulate vernal pools under Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code, CDFW will assert jurisdiction over isolated riparian features (including vernal pools) if California state threatened and/or endangered species are present via the California Endangered Species Act, or which provide resources directly or indirectly to fish and wildlife of the region. CDFW may also assert



jurisdiction over modified or man-made waterways, generally based on the value of such features to support riparian or aquatic plant or animal species. For clarification, of features that may be subject to CDFW jurisdiction, the CDFW Legal Advisor has prepared the following opinion (ESD-CDFG 1994):

- Natural waterways that have been subsequently modified and which have the potential to contain fish, aquatic insects, and riparian vegetation will be treated like natural waterways.
- Artificial waterways that have acquired the physical attributes of natural stream courses and which have been viewed by the community as natural stream courses should be treated by [CDFW] as natural waterways.
- Artificial waterways without the attributes of natural waterways should generally not be subject to Fish and Game Code provisions.

CDFW jurisdictional limits also include artificial stock ponds and irrigation ditches constructed within uplands, and outer drip line limits of adjacent riparian habitat supported by a river, stream, or lake regardless of the riparian area's federal wetland status or its location beyond the defined bed, bank, or channel.

The CDFW would not take jurisdiction over the drain <u>outfall</u> intake due to the lack of riparian habitat, no defined bed and bank and the absence of hydrology. The intake was historically installed from within uplands to serve as a conduit for ephemeral sheetflow to flow from the north to the south under Montecito Road; there are no observable drainage or wetland features or hydrophytic vegetation upslope from the intake.

Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO) Wetlands

The drain outfall intake within the disturbed habitat onsite would not qualify as an RPO wetland. The area surrounding the outfall intake did not contain a predominance of hydrophytic vegetation, lacked hydrologic indicators and nor it did it not contain undrained hydric soil.

Though the Project vicinity is known to contain wetlands and vernal pool complexes, the Project site has been in a developed state since at least 1953, as based on a review of available aerial imagery (historicaerials.com). The entire Project site has been completely developed and/or has undergone regular operations and maintenance activities that include grading, tilling, grazing, development, redevelopment and fire reduction. Onsite soils are therefore altered extensively from predevelopment states. As a result of these regular disturbance and development events that have occurred for over 65 years, combined with an absence of observed wetland and/or vernal pool plant species and a lack of depressional landforms, there is an absence of vernal pools and RPO wetlands on the Project site. Therefore, surveys for vernal pools, vernal pool plant and wildlife species and RPO wetlands are considered complete.

OTHER UNIQUE FEATURES/RESOURCES

Wildlife Corridors and Linkages

The Project site is surrounded by a mosaic of development, agriculture and disturbed habitat lands that, with the exception of the development, are known to support or potentially support a number



of species of invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Movement by these species occurs on a local scale throughout the undeveloped or open areas of the general vicinity, as well as within the Project site itself. Besides the existing development, there are no real encumbrances to wildlife movement, such as the large highways, fences, and infrastructure that often impedes wildlife movement elsewhere where humans have severely altered landscapes. Thus, wildlife, including large mammals, may utilize the Project site for passage toward more natural areas or even the open lands provided by the agricultural lands.

However, given that the largest section of the proposed Project site is currently undeveloped and will be mostly softscape developed following Project establishment, local wildlife movement and corridor usage potential is anticipated to be negated by the proposed Project. Nevertheless, given the small size of the Project and the availability of other similar parcels and ample open space in the immediate area, wildlife movement is anticipated to continue nearly unabated.

Wildlife Nursery Sites

Potential maternal roosting sites (nursery sites) for bats were not observed during the survey, therefore the Project site does not support habitat, other than that for foraging, for bat species.

Raptor Nesting and Foraging

The Project site contains numerous large eucalyptus trees that are suitable for raptor nesting, however no large stick nests were observed during the survey, indicating that these trees have not been used by raptors for nesting during recent nesting seasons. Suitable foraging habitat in the form of open disturbed habitat on the Project site as well as open grasslands, specifically the Ramona Grasslands, and agricultural areas, are located adjacent to the Project site. The proposed land use change would change raptor foraging and nesting potential on and adjacent to the Project site, though the impacts of such a land use change are considered less than significant, largely based on decades of heavy human disturbance associated with the areas proposed for change, as balanced by the unchanged agricultural and grassland areas in the surrounding areas that provide superior foraging habitat when compared to the much smaller disturbed habitat on the Project site. These two components combined indicate that the Project site is suitable for raptor nesting. Suitable nesting burrows for ground nesting raptors, specifically burrowing owl, were not observed during the survey. Burrowing owl populations are known to occur within the adjacent Ramona Airport lands, however burrowing owls were not observed within the Project site or 500-foot survey area during the survey, and the absence of suitable burrows on the Project site indicates that burrowing owls are absent.

Regionally Sensitive Resources – Ramona Grasslands County Preserve

The Ramona Grasslands County Preserve consists of 3,521 acres of undeveloped lands in the Santa Maria Valley and is composed of numerous vegetation types including, but not limited to: native and non-native grasslands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, oak woodlands, riparian areas and vernal pools. Numerous sensitive plant and wildlife species are found throughout the Preserve, including Stephens' kangaroo rat, fairy shrimp, golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos), burrowing owl, San Diego thorn mint and southern tarplant. The proposed Project is located outside of the County of San Diego



Ramona Grasslands Special Study area.

SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION

The proposed Project is the softscape development of <u>approximately 3.5 acres of previously disturbed and developed lands on</u> a 5.016 acre parcel into a special events center. No offsite impacts will occur, since the Project will utilize the existing access from Montecito Way, and any required fuel management will be accommodated onsite, or where it would extend offsite, the land is already developed or maintained for adjacent land use, such as agricultural or aviation operations. Proposed applicable mitigation measures are proposed in order to reduce impacts to sensitive biological resources to a less than significant level in conformance with the County of San Diego Guidelines for Determining Significance for Biological Resources (County 2010).

Table 3 identifies the potential impacts as a result of the proposed Project. Mitigation is not required for impacts to disturbed and urban/developed habitats per the County guidelines.

Table 3. Potential Impacts											
Habitat/Vegetation Community	Existing (acres)										
Disturbed Habitat	3.171	3.171	0	0:1	0	0	0				
Developed	1.845	1.845	0	0:1	0	0	0				
Total	5.016	5.016	0	0:1	0	0	0				

Significance of Project Impacts

The following discussion describes the Project's potential to directly, indirectly and cumulatively impact sensitive biological resources during redevelopment, and provides analyses of significance for each potential impact in conformance with the County of San Diego Guidelines for Determining Significance for Biological Resources (County 2010).

Direct Impacts

Direct impacts include those involving the loss, alteration and/or disturbance of plant communities, and consequently, the flora and fauna of the affected area. Direct impacts also include the destruction of individual plants and/or wildlife. Direct impacts may adversely affect regional populations of certain species, or result in isolated populations, reducing genetic diversity and rangewide population stability; conversely, direct impacts may also have intended or unintended positive effects in some cases.



Indirect Impacts

Indirect impacts include a variety of effects related to areas or habitats that are not directly removed by Project softscape development, such as loss of foraging habitat, increased ambient noise, artificial light, introduced predators (e.g., domestic cats, dogs and other non-native animals), competition with exotic plants and animals, increased human presence and associated disturbances (e.g., trash, green waste, physical intrusion). Indirect impacts may include long and/or short term daily activities associated with project build-out, such as increased traffic, permanent barriers or fences, buildings, exotic seed-bearing ornamental plantings, irrigated landscapes and human presence, among others. These types of impacts are known as edge effects and over time, may result in some encroachment on native plants by exotic plants, altered behavioral wildlife patterns, reduced wildlife diversity, and decreased wildlife abundance in habitats adjacent to a given project site. However, as is the case with direct impacts, indirect impacts may also have intended or unintended positive effects for certain species.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts are defined by the collective of two or more projects, that when considered individually are minimal, but over time may become collectively significant.

Thresholds of Significance

Environmental impacts relative to biological resources are assessed using impact significance threshold criteria, which reflect the policy statement contained in CEQA, Section 21001(c) of the California Public Resources Code. Accordingly, the State Legislature has established it to be the policy of the State of California to:

"Prevent the elimination of fish or wildlife species due to man's activities, insure that fish and wildlife populations do not drop below self- perpetuating levels, and preserve for future generations representations of all plant and animal communities..."

Determining whether a project may have a significant effect, or impact, plays a critical role in the CEQA process. According to CEQA, Section 15064.7 (Thresholds of Significance), each public agency is encouraged to develop and adopt (by ordinance, resolution, rule, or regulation) thresholds of significance that the agency uses in the determination of the significance of environmental effects. A threshold of significance is an identifiable quantitative, qualitative or performance level of a particular environmental effect, non-compliance with which means the effect will normally be determined to be significant by the agency and compliance with which means the effect normally will be determined to be less than significant. In the development of thresholds of significance for impacts to biological resources CEQA provides guidance primarily in Section 15065, Mandatory Findings of Significance, and the CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G, Environmental Checklist Form. Section 15065(a) states that a project may have a significant effect where:

"The project has the potential to: substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population



to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or wildlife community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species, ..."

Therefore, for the purpose of this analysis, impacts to biological resources are considered potentially significant (before considering offsetting mitigation measures) if one or more of the following criteria discussed below would result from implementation of the proposed project.

Attachment G of the 1998 State CEQA guidelines indicate that a project may be deemed to have a significant effect on the environment if the project is likely to:

- **a)** Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- **b)** Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- **c)** Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.
- **d)** Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.
- **e)** Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.
- f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

Direct impacts to developed and disturbed habitats on the project site would not be considered significant. No direct impacts will occur to sensitive plant or wildlife species, including turkey vulture and western bluebird, and with the implementation of the mitigation measure MM-BIO 1 contained herein, impacts would be reduced to less than significant for all nesting bird species. Since no sensitive habitat types are found on the Project site, habitat-based mitigation is not required.

<u>Urban/Developed</u>

Impacts to developed habitat on the Project site would not be considered significant. The developed areas consist of residential buildings and recreational spaces, parking areas and a landscaped yard.



Disturbed Habitat

Impacts to disturbed habitat on the Project site would not be considered significant. The disturbed habitat areas consist of low-growing and regularly maintained non-native grasses and forb species subjected to mechanical raking and consistent anthropogenic disturbance.

Indirect Impacts

No significant indirect impacts will result from the Project. The Project site does not abut native habitats and is surrounded by developed roads, structures and agricultural lands.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The Project does not propose to have any direct or indirect impacts to sensitive habitats, plants or wildlife. Therefore, the Project would not contribute to potential cumulative impacts associated with nearby similar projects such as Montecito Ranch, Ramona Airport Improvement, Cumming Ranch and Oak Country Estates.

Mitigation

The proposed Project will not result in the loss of any sensitive habitat; therefore, mitigation credits will not need to be purchased to offset the softscape development of the disturbed and urban/developed habitats. Several sensitive species have a low to moderate potential for occurrence on the Project site, and in order to reduce any potential impacts to below a level of significance to comply with CEQA, the following mitigation measure is recommended for implementation:

MM-BIO 1: To the extent feasible, conduct vegetation removal outside of the nesting bird season (generally between February 1 and August 31). If vegetation removal is required during the nesting bird season, conduct a pre-construction avoidance survey for MBTA and CDFW-protected nesting birds within 300 feet of areas proposed for vegetation removal and/or initial grading activities; additionally, the survey shall be extended to 500 feet for raptors and be included from January 1 to July 15. The survey shall also extend to 500 feet for burrowing owls and other potentially occurring sensitive avian species. The survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist(s) within seven three days (=168 72 hours) of vegetation removal and/or initial groundbreaking activities. If active, protected nests are observed within the survey area(s), a qualified biologist will determine appropriate minimum disturbance buffers or other adaptive mitigation techniques (e.g., biological monitoring of active nests during construction-related activities, staggered work schedules, altered work locations, sound walls, noise abatement, etc.) and work with the contractor to ensure that direct and indirect impacts to all protected nesting birds are avoided until such nests are no longer active. Results of any nesting bird surveys will be provided to the Wildlife Agencies (USFWS and CDFW) for concurrence of no impacts to nesting birds regardless of whether active nests are identified. If the results of the survey are negative, and once concurrence of no impacts is received from the Wildlife Agencies is received, the Project will proceed without



- any further surveys or monitoring as long as there Is not a significant lapse (greater than seven days) in Project activity.
- MM-BIO 2: In order to minimize impacts to sensitive wildlife species with a potential to occur
 on the Project site, a qualified biological monitor (preferably a USFWS-approved arroyo toad
 handler) will be on-site during the initial clearing and rough grading to relocate wildlife out of
 harm's way.

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Biologist – President

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ATTACHMENTS:

Figure 1 – Project Location

Figure 2 – Vegetation Communities

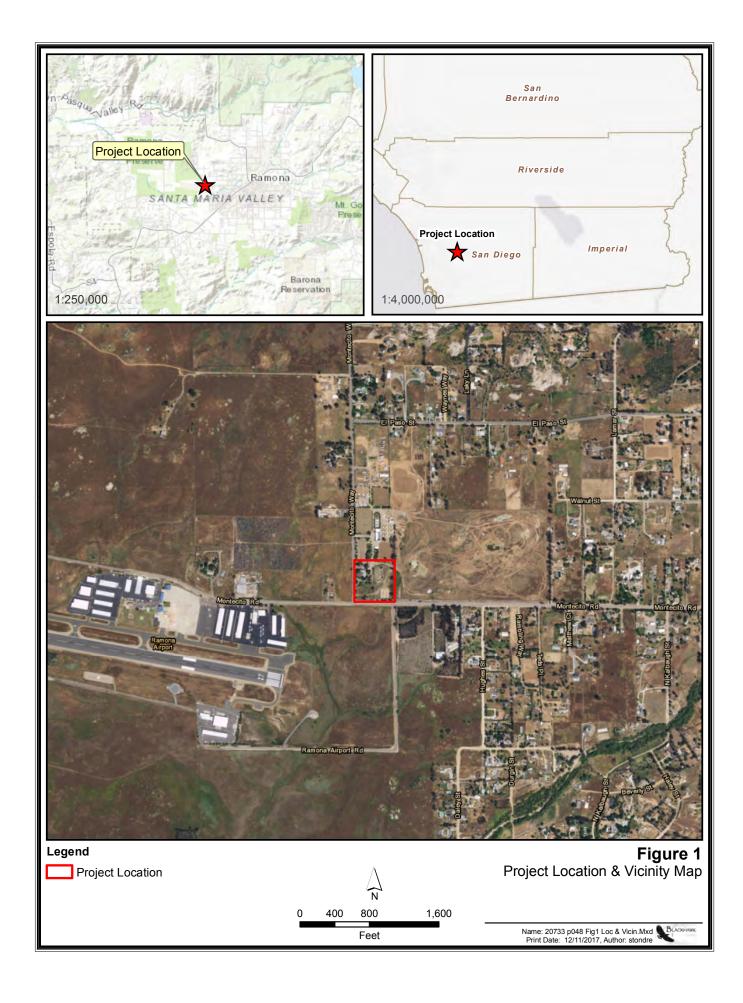
Figure 3 – CNDDB Results Map

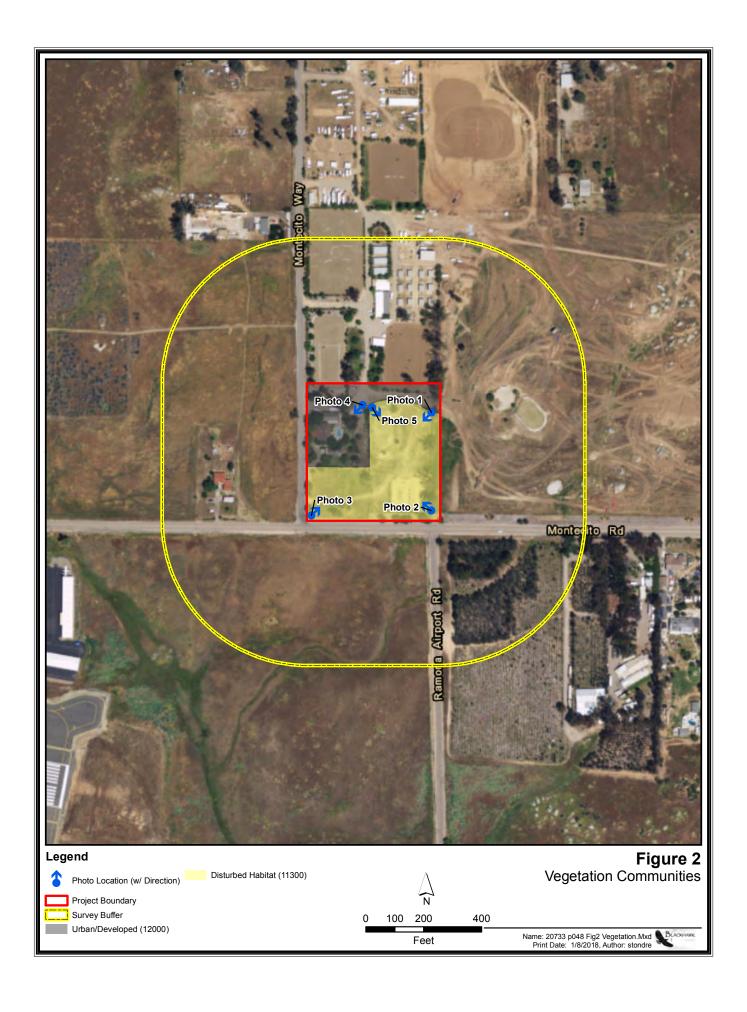
Appendix A - Wildlife Species List

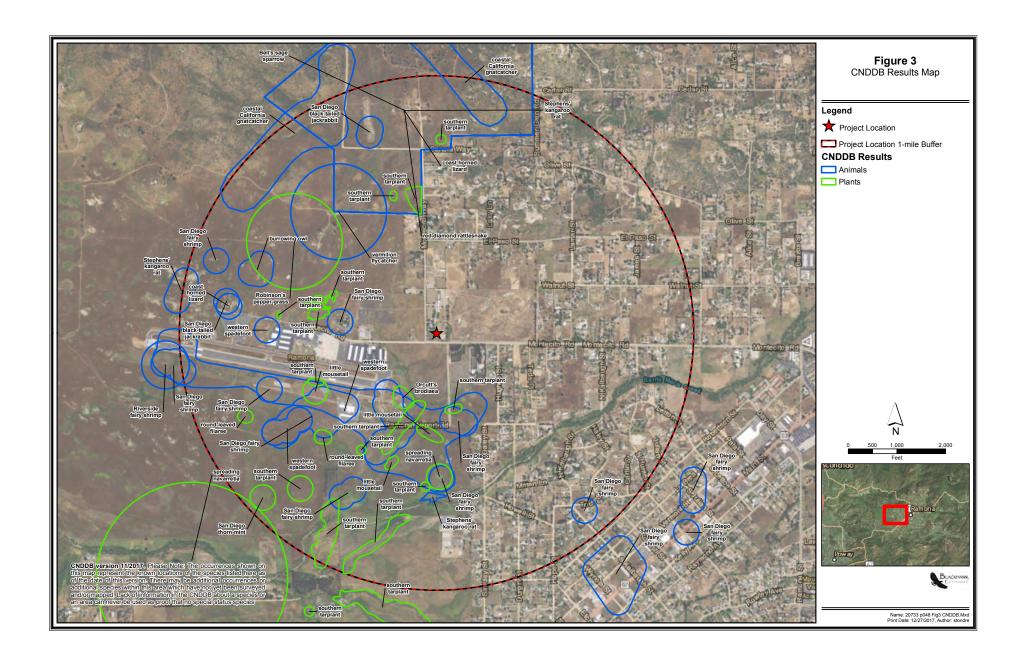
Appendix B – Plant Species List

Appendix C – Sensitive Plant and Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur

Appendix D – Representative Photos







APPENDIX A

Wildlife Species Observed List





APPENDIX A

WILDLIFE SPECIES LIST

AVES	BIRDS
ACCIPRIDAE	Kites, Hawks, Eagles and Allies
Buteo jamaicensis	red-tailed hawk
AEGITHALIDAE	Bushtits
Psaltriparus minimus	bushtit
CORVIDAE	Jays, Magpies and Crows
Corvus corax	common raven
CATHARTIDAE	Storks & Relatives
Cathartes aura	turkey vulture
COLUMBIDAE	Pigeons & Doves
Zenaida macroura	mourning dove
EMBERIZIDAE	New World Sparrows & Buntings
Chondestes grammacus	lark sparrow
Melozone crissalis	California towhee
Zonotrichia leucophrys	white-crowned sparrow
FALCONIDAE	Caracaras and Falcons
Falco sparverius	American kestrel
FRINGILLIDAE	Finches and Allies
Haemorhous mexicanus	house finch
ICTERIDAE	Blackbirds and Allies
Sturnella neglecta	western meadowlark
PARULIDAE	New World Warblers
Setophaga coronata	yellow-rumped warbler
TURDIDAE	Thrushes
Sialia currucoides	mountain bluebird
Sialia mexicana	western bluebird
TYRANNIDAE	Tyrant Flycatchers
Sayornis nigricans	black phoebe
Sayornis saya	Say's phoebe
Tyrannus vociferans	Cassin's kingbird

MAMMALIA	MAMMALS
CANIDAE	Foxes, Wolves & Allies
Canis latrans	coyote
GEOMYIDAE	Pocket Gophers
Thomomys bottae	Botta's pocket gopher
SCIURIDAE	Squirrels, Chipmunks, Marmots, Prairie Dogs
Otospermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel

^{*} Non-native species

APPENDIX B

Plant Species Observed List





APPENDIX B

PLANT SPECIES LIST

ANGIOSPERMS MONOCOTS

POACEAE	Grass Family
**Avena barbata	slender wild oat
*Cynodon dactylon	Bermuda grass
**Hordeum murinum	smooth barley
*Poa pratensis	Kentucky bluegrass
*Stipa miliacea	smilo grass

DICOTS

ANACARDIACEAE	Sumac Family
*Schinus molle	Peruvian pepper tree
ASTERACEAE	Sunflower Family
*Cynara cardunculus	artichoke thistle
Erigeron canadensis	Canada horseweed
Helianthus annuus	western sunflower
*Sonchus asper	prickly sow thistle
*Sonchus oleraceous	common sow thistle
BIGNONIACEAE	Trumpet creeper family
*Jacaranda mimosifolia	black poui
BRASSICACEAE	Mustard Family
**Hirschfeldia incana	short-pod mustard
CHENOPODIACEAE	Goosefoot Family
*Atriplex semibaccata	Australian saltbush
**Salsola tragus	Russian Thistle
EUPHORBIACEAE	Spurge Family
Croton setiger	doveweed
FABACEAE	Legume Family
*Medicago polymorpha	bur clover
*Parkinsonia sp.	palo verde
MALVACEAE	Mallow Family
*Malva parviflora	cheese weed
MYRTACEAE	Myrtle Family
*Eucalyptus globulus	blue gum
PLATANACEAE	Sycamore Family
Platanus racemosa	California sycamore
POLYGONACEAE	Buckwheat Family
*Rumex crispus	curly dock
*Polygonum aviculare ssp. depressum	knotweed
SAPINDACEAE	Soapberry Family

*Cupaniopsis anacardioides	carrotwood
SOLANACEAE	Nightshade Family
*Solanum sp.	nightshade

 $\underline{\textit{Key to Symbols:}} \ ^* \ \text{Non-native;} \ ^{**} \ \text{Non-native and Invasive according to the California Invasive Plant Council}$

APPENDIX C

Sensitive Plant and Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur



Scientific Name and Common Name		Sensitivit	y Codes	(0303	SAN PASQUAL QUAD) Habitat Preference/	Verified On-Site	Potential to Occur	Factual Basis for
	CRPR	County	State	Federal	Requirements	Yes/No	On-Site	Determination of Occurrence Potential
Caraway leaved woodland gilia (Saltugilia caruifolia)	4.3	<u>List D</u>	None	None	Annual herb found in chaparral and yellow pine forests at elevations between 1400 – 2300 meters. Blooms May through August and prefers openings in rocky soil within the chaparral or forest.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	There is no potential for this species to occur to due to the lack of suitable habitat and soils as well as the disturbed nature of the Project site.
Engelmann oak (Quercus engelmannii)	4.2	List D	None	<u>None</u>	A tree found at elevations between 50 – 1300 meters. This species blooms between March and June and is typically associated with chaparral, cismontane woodland, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland habitats.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	Growth forms of this species are highly identifiable year round. This species was not observed during the site visit, therefore there is no potential for this species to occur.
<u>Graceful tarplant</u> (Holocarpha virgata elongata)	4.2	List D	None	None	Annual herb occurring in chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal sage scrub, and valley and foothill grasslands: typically found below 900 meters. Blooms between May and November and is generally found on heavy soils within mildly disturbed habitat, or openings in scrub.	<u>No</u>	<u>Low</u>	Due to a near lack of suitable habitat and soils and the disturbed nature of the Project site, this species is considered to have a very low potential for occurrence.
Large-leaf fillary (Erodium macrophyllum var macrophyllum)	<u>CBR</u>	<u>List B</u>	None	<u>None</u>	An annual herb found on heavy soils and in openings within valley grasslands and	<u>No</u>	No Potential	There is no potential for this species to occu

Little mousetail (Myosurus minimus)	3.1	List C	None	None	foothill woodlands. This species blooms between March and May and is found in elevations between 15 - 1200 meters. Found in valley and foothill grassland and vernal pools (alkaline).	No	Absent No Potential	to due to the lack of suitable habitat and soils, as well as the disturbed nature of the Project site. Presumed absent No potential to occur due to lack of vernal pools. Vernal pools were not observed on site.
Orcutt's brodiaea (Brodiaea orcuttii)	1B.1	List A, MSCP- covered	None	None	Perennial bulbiferous herb that typically blooms May through July and is found at elevations between 30 - 1692 meters. This species prefers mesic, clay soils and can be found in closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland and vernal pools.	No	Absent No Potential	Has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site; however, This species is considered absent there is no potential for this species to occur due to a lack of suitable habitat and moist soils. In addition, the frequency of disturbance through human and equestrian use, precludes a bulbiferous herb from persisting.
Palmer's grappling hook (Harpagonella palmeri)	4.2	<u>List D</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>	An annual herb that prefers mafic/clay soils in dry, semi-barren areas within chaparral,	<u>No</u>	<u>No Potential</u>	There is no potential for this species to occur to due to the

Parish brittlescale (Atriplex parishii)	<u>1B.1</u>	List A	None	None	coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland communities. This species blooms between March and May and is found at elevations between 20 - 955 meters. Prefers alkaline/clay soils, typically found in chenopod scrub, playas and vernal pools.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	lack of suitable habitat and soils, as well as the disturbed nature of the Project site. There is no potential for this species to occur to due to the lack of suitable habitat and soils, as well as the highly disturbed nature of the Project site.
Robinson's peppergrass (Lepidium virginicum var. robinsonii)	4.3	List A	None	None	Annual herb that occurs in Chaparral, Coastal Sage Scrub at elevations between 1 to 885 meters above sea level and blooms between January to July. Occurs usually in nonwetlands and occasionally in wetlands.	No	Low <u>No Potential</u>	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site. Due to a lack of suitable habitat and the disturbed nature of the Project site, this species is considered to have no potential for occurrence.
Round-leaved filaree (California macrophylla)	1B.2	List B	None	None	Prefers clay soils, typically found in cismontane woodland and valley and foothill grassland communities.	No	Absent No Potential	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site. Soils on the Project site have been consistently anthropogenically altered to a

								degree that would likely preclude this species, therefore this species is considered absent has no potential to occur on the Project site.
Rush like bristleweed (Xanthisma junceum)	4.3	<u>List D</u>	None	None	A perennial herb found on mafic or clay soils, typically in chaparral and coastal scrub habitat. This species blooms between June and January and is found at elevations between 240 - 1000 meters.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	Suitable habitat and soil types do not occur within the Project site. Additionally, this the survey was conducted during the normal blooming period for this perennial herb and it was not observed. Therefore, this species has no potential for occurrence on the Project site.
San Diego thorn mint (Acanthamintha ilicifolia)	1B.1	List A, MSCP- covered	SE	FT	Restricted to vernal pool communities with deeper pools that retain water for medium to long durations.	No	Absent No Potential	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site; however, suitable vernal pools do not exist within the Project site. Therefore, this species is presumed

	1	1	1	1				1
								absent <u>has no</u> potential for
								occurrence on
								the Project site.
Southern skullcap	<u>1B.1</u>	List A	None	<u>None</u>	A perennial rhizomatous herb	<u>No</u>	No Potential	Suitable habitat
(Scutellaria bolanderi					typically occurring in mesic,			and soil types do
<u>austromontana)</u>					gravelly soils in chaparral,			not occur within
					cismontane woodland, lower			the Project site.
					montane coniferous forest			Additionally, this
					habitats. This species blooms:			perennial herb is
					between June and August,			<u>identifiable</u>
					and is found at elevations			beyond the
					between 425 - 2000 meters.			blooming
								period, and
								would have been expected
								to be observed
								during the site
								assessment.
								Therefore, this
								species has no
								potential for
								occurrence on
								the Project site.
Southern tarplant	1B.1	List A	None	None	Annual herb that typically	No	Absent .	Although this
(Centromedia parryi ssp. australis)					blooms between May and		No Potential	species has
					November and is found in			been
					valley grassland and			documented
					freshwater wetlands.			within the
								vicinity of the
								Project site, it is
								presumed
								absent due to a
								lack of suitable habitat provides
								no potential for
								this species to
								occur on the
								Project site.
Spreading navarretia (Navarretia	1B.1	List A.	None	FT	Typically found in chenopod	No	Absent .	Although this
fossalis)		MSCP-		'	scrub, marshes and swamps		No Potential	species has
,		covered			(assorted shallow freshwater),			been
					playas and vernal pools.			documented

								within the vicinity of the Project site, it is presumed absent due to a lack of suitable habitat provides no potential for this species to occur on the Project site.
Vernal barley (Hordeum intercedens)	3.2	List C	None	None	Annual herb found in vernal pools, dry, saline streambeds or depressions, and alkaline flats. Occurs at elevations below 1000 meters.	<u>No</u>	<u>No Potential</u>	Suitable vernal pool habitat and/or alkaline soil types do not occur within the Project site. Therefore, this species has no potential to occur on the Project site.

Scientific Name and Common Name	Se	nsitivity Co	des	Habitat Preference/ Requirements	Verified On-Site	Potential to Occur On-Site	Factual Basis for
	County	State	Federal		Yes/No		Determination of Occurrence Potential
American badger (Taxidea taxus)	Group 2, MSCP- covered	SSC	None	Found where rodent prey is ample in flat terrain to moderate slopes in a variety of open habitats including grasslands, alluvial fans, scrubs, fallow agricultural lands, and deserts.	No	Low	This species has been documented in the vicinity of the Project site; however, consisted anthropogenic influences are likely to limit this species occurrences to foraging and movement purposes only.
Arroyo toad (Anaxyrus californicus)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	SSC	E	Requires low gradient streams with exposed sandy stream-sides and stable terraces for burrowing, with scattered vegetation for shelter, and quiet pools free of predatory fishes with sandy or gravel bottoms for breeding.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	Although the Project site is located within USFWS critical habitat for arroyo toad, a CNDDB data query did no result in any recorded observations of arroyo toad within mile of the Project site. Furthermore, arroyo toads have been documente traveling up to 1.6 horizontal feet fror occupied breedin habitat to potentic use areas (Ramire 2002), far less than

							recorded observation.
Bell's sage sparrow (Artemisiospiza belli belli)	Group 1	None	None	Breeds in coastal sagebrush, chaparral, and other open, scrubby habitats. In chaparral, they tend toward younger, less dense stands that are growing back from recent fires. Bell's sage sparrows typically put their nests within shrubs, but also in bunchgrasses, and occasionally on the ground under shrubs, including California sagebrush, brittlebush, white sage, black sage, California buckwheat, bush mallow, chamise, cholla, willow, and others.	No	Absent No Potential	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site. However, suitable coastal sagebrush, chaparral or other open scrub habitats do not exist within the Project site. Due to the lack of suitable nesting habitat, this species is presumed absent there is no potential for it to occur.
Big free-tailed bat (Nyctinomops macrotis)	Group 2	SSC	None	Occurs in a variety of habitat types, including sage scrub, pine-oak woodlands, and rocky canyon lands. Forages on a variety of insects in flight. Roosts primarily in high rocky outcrops, rugged cliffs and rockstrewn slopes, but will also roost in caves, crevices, mines, tunnels, abandoned buildings, roof tiles and other structures.	<u>No</u>	Low (foraging) No Potential (roosting)	With an absence of suitable roosting substrates, this species is considered absent for roosting proposes, but it has a low potential to occur as a foraging species.
Burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	SSC	None	Shortgrass prairies, grasslands, lowland scrub, agricultural lands (particularly rangelands), coastal dunes, desert floors and some artificial, open areas as a year-long resident. Occupies abandoned ground squirrel burrows as well as artificial structures such as culverts and pipes.	No	Moderate	This species has been historically documented to occur in adjacent habitats, specifically within the Ramona Airport, however suitable burrows do not exist onsite, and low-quality habitat occurs on the Project site.

California gull (Non-breeding) (Larus californicus)	Group 2	None	None	Breeds on sparsely vegetated islands and levees in inland lakes and rivers. Forages in open areas including farm fields, aarbaae dumps, meadows, scrublands, yards, orchards and pastures	<u>No</u>	Low	Foraging habitat in the form of open lands near agriculture exists on the Project site.
California horned lark (Eremophila alpestris actia)	Group 2	None	None	A common, widespread bird of the open country, the Horned Lark prefers short, sparsely vegetated prairies, deserts, and agricultural lands.	No	Low (nesting) Moderate (foraging)	This species is known to occur within the vicinity of the Project site. Very marginally suitable nesting habitat exists within the Project site and adjacent areas. Horned larks commonly utilize disturbed fields with low-growing vegetation for nesting, however based on the frequency of disturbance within the site it is unlikely this species would use the project site for nesting but may forage through the

California red-legged frog (Rana aurora draytoni)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	SSC	E	Found mainly near ponds in humid forests, woodlands, grasslands, coastal scrub, and streamsides with plant cover. Most common in lowlands or foothills. Breeding habitat is in permanent or ephemeral water sources; lakes, ponds, reservoirs, slow streams, marshes, bogs, and swamps. Ephemeral wetland habitats require animal burrows or other moist refuges for estivation when the wetlands are dry.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records exist within five miles of the Project site, and there is no suitable habitat on site. Therefore, this species is considered absent.
Canada goose (Winter) (Branta canadensis)	Group 2, MSCP- covered	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>	Inhabits many habitats near water, grassy fields and grain fields.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No habitat exists for this species on the Project site.
Coast patch-nosed snake (Salvadora hexalepis virgultea)	Group 2	SSC	None	Inhabits semi-arid brushy areas and chaparral in canyons, rocky hillsides, and plains.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records exist within three miles of the Project site and suitable habitat is not present. Therefore, this species has no potential to occur on the Project site.
Coastal California gnatcatcher (Polioptila californica californica)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	SSC	FT	This species is closely associated with open sage scrub with California sagebrush (Artemisia californica) as a dominant or co-dominant species.	No	Absent No Potential	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site; however, suitable sage scrub habitat does not exist on the Project site or adjacent areas. Therefore, this species is presumed absent has no potential to occur on the Project site.

Coastal rosy boa (Lichanura orcutti)	Group 2	None	None	Inhabits arid scrublands, semi-arid shrublands, rocky shrublands, rocky deserts, canyons, and other rocky areas. Appears to be common in riparian areas but does not require permanent water.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records exist within four miles of the Project site, and suitable habitat is not present. Therefore, this species is assumed to have no potential to occur on the Project site.
Coastal whiptail Aspidoscelis tigris steinegeri (formerly Cnemidophorus tigris multiscutatus)	Group 2	SSC	None	Prefers open scrub, chaparral, and woodland habitats with open areas for basking and native ants as a prey base.	<u>No</u>	Low	Although this species has been recorded within the vicinity of the Project site, overall habitat quality for this species is low.
Cooper's hawk (Accipiter cooperii)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	None	None	Typically a forest and woodland bird species, but can be found in parks, quiet neighborhoods, over fields, at backyard feeders and even busy, tree-lined streets.	No	Moderate	This species is known to occur within the vicinity of the Project site. Limited suitable nesting habitat exists within the Project site in the form of sparse eucalyptus trees, with ample suitable nesting habitat in the eucalyptus woodland to the southwest. The project site also provides suitable foraging habitat.
<u>Dulzura California pocket mouse</u> (Chaetodipus californicus femoralis)	Group 2	SSC	<u>None</u>	Found in foothills, mountains, and a short distance into the desert slopes, Prefers gravelly substrates with good sun exposure, usually in or near chaparral, but also in coastal sage	<u>No</u>	<u>Low</u>	Iwo CNDDB records exist within two miles of the Project site. Marginally suitable habitat is found on

				scrub, oak woodland, or at the edges of grasslands.			the Project site; however, repeated anthropogenic disturbances for over 60 years have degraded the habitat quality reducing this species' potential to occur on the Project site to low.
Ferruginous hawk (Winter) (Buteo regalis)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	None	None	Winters in open grasslands, fields, open desert scrub and savannah habitats. Forages on a variety of mammals.	<u>No</u>	Low	No CNDDB records exist within five miles of the Project site; however, this species is a recognized winter resident of the Ramona Grasslands and therefore has a low potential to occur.
Fringed myotis (Myotis thysanodes)	Group 2	None	None	Roosts in crevices in buildings, mines, rocks, cliff faces, trees and bridges. In San Diego, it occurs primarily in the mountains, usually in oak woodlands and coniferous trees, but sometimes in transitional habitats at lower elevations.	<u>No</u>	Low (foraging) No Potential (roosting)	No CNDDB records exist within five miles from the Project site. With an absence of suitable roosting substrates, this species is considered absent for roosting proposes, but it has a low potential to occur as a foraging species.
Golden Eagle (Aquila chrysaetos)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	<u>FP</u>	<u>None</u>	In southern California, occupies grasslands, brushlands, deserts, oak savannas, open coniferous forests, and montane valleys. Typically nests on rock outcrops and ledges.	No	No Potential (nesting) Low (foraging)	Though suitable nesting locations are known to occur within five miles of the Project site.

							there is no suitable nesting habitat on or adjacent to the Project site for this species. Only limited foraging potential exists on the barren, disturbed habitats.
Grasshopper sparrow (Ammodramus savannarum)	Group 1	SSC	None	This species breeds in open grasslands, prairies, havfields, and pastures, typically with some bare ground.	<u>No</u>	Low	No CNDDB records exist within five miles from the Project site; however, suitable habitat exists in the surrounding vicinity with marginally suitable habitat located within the Project site itself.
Greater western mastiff bat (Eumops perotis californicus)	Group 2	SSC	None	Occurs in many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, annual and perennial grasslands, palm oases, chaparral, desert scrub, and urban. Crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees, and tunnels are required for roosting. When roosting in rock crevices, it needs vertical faces to drop off to take flight. Reproduction: Nursery roosts described as tight rock crevices at least 35 inches deep and two inches wide, or crevices in buildings. Suitable habitat consists of extensive open areas with abundant roost locations provided by crevices in rock outcrops and buildings. Is known to forage over 25 miles away from its roost site (Zeiner et al 1988).	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting) Low (foraging)	No CNDDB records exist within two miles from the Project site. With an absence of suitable roosting substrates, this species is considered absent for roosting proposes, but it has a low potential to occur as a foraging species. Although this species has been recorded in the vicinity, overall habitat quality is low, and there are no suitable roosting habitats onsite.

Hermes copper (Lycaena hermes)	Group 1	None	FC	Occurs in coastal sage scrub and southern mixed chaparral in close association with California buckwheat (Eriogonum fasciculatum) and its sole larval host plant, spiny redberry (Rhamnus crocea).	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records exist within five miles of the Project site. No suitable habitat is found on the Project site therefore this species has no potential to occur.
Large-blotched salamander (Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi)	Group 1	None	None	Inhabits moist, shaded evergreen and deciduous forests and oak woodlands. Found under rocks, logs, and other debris, or in animal burrows and woodrat nests.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records exist within five miles of the Project site. No suitable habitat exists on the Project site.
Least Bell's vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	<u>SE</u>	臣	Occupies riverine riparian habitats that typically feature dense cover within 1-2 meters of the ground and a dense, stratified canopy. It inhabits low, dense riparian arowth along water or along dry parts of intermittent streams. Primarily associated with willows and mule fat.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	Although one CNDDB record exists within two miles from the Project site, there is no suitable nesting habitat on the Project site. Therefore, this species is assumed to have no potential to occur.
Loggerhead shrike (Lanius Iudovicianus)	Group 1	SSC	None	Inhabits open country with short vegetation and well-spaced shrubs or low trees, particularly those with spines or thorns. Frequents agricultural fields, pastures, old orchards, riparian areas, desert scrublands, savannas, prairies, golf courses and cemeteries.	No	Low	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site; however, only ornamental shrubs and small trees marginally suitable for nesting exist within the Project site therefore potential for this species to nest within the project

							site is low. The site potentially provides suitable foraging habitat for this species.
Long eared myotis (Myotis evotis)	Group 2	None	None	Occurs in semiarid shrublands, chaparral, and agricultural areas, but is usually associated with coniferous forests. Individuals roost under exfoliating tree bark, and in hollow trees, caves, mines, cliff crevices, sinkholes, and rocky outcrops on the ground. They also sometimes roost in buildings and under bridges.	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting) Low (foraging)	No CNDDB records exist within four miles from the Project site. With an absence of suitable roosting substrates, this species is considered absent for roosting proposes, but has a low potential to occur as a foraging species. Although this species has been recorded in the vicinity, overall habitat quality is low, and there are no suitable roosting habitats onsite.
Long legged myotis [Myotis volans]	Group 2	None	None	Primarily occurs in coniferous forests, but also seasonally in riparian and desert habitats. Uses abandoned buildings, cracks in the around, cliff crevices, exfoliating tree bark, and hollows within snags as summer day roosts, and caves and mines as hibernacula. It is a rapid, direct flier, often traveling some distance while foraging, and feeds in and around the forest canopy, primarily on moths and other soft-bodied insects. In San Diego, it primarily occurs in the mountains and transitional habitats at higher elevations including pine-oak	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting) Low (foraging)	No CNDDB records exist within five miles from the Project site. With an absence of suitable roosting substrates, this species is considered absent for roosting proposes, but has a low potential to occur as a foraging species. Although this species has been recorded in the vicinity, overall

				woodlands, but also in desert transition vegetation, and in the desert at the base of the eastern foothills in association with palm groves and possibly desert riparian habitat.			habitat quality is low, and there are no suitable roosting habitats onsite.
Monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus)	Group 2	None	None	At overwintering sites, monarchs require high humidity, fresh water, and an absence of freezing temperatures or high winds. They are found at sites consisting of roost trees, in which monarchs cluster, surrounded by a larger grove or windrow of trees. Trees most commonly used for roosting include Monterey pine, Monterey cypress blue gum eucalyptus, red gum eucalyptus, western sycamore, and coast live oak.	<u>No</u>	Moderate	No CNDDB records are known within five miles of the Project site. No larval host plants [milkweed (Asclepias spp.)] were observed on the Project site. Therefore, this species may be considered absent from the Project site for eag-laying and larval metamorphosis life history functions, but may be considered as moderate potential to occur as a fly-over species.
Mountain lion (Felis concolor)	Group 2, MSCP- covered	None	None	Found in riparian woodland, forest, scrub, chaparral, grassland and desert wherever mule deer and sufficient cover to stalk them exist.	<u>No</u>	Low	The small footprint of the Project site serves nothing more than a potential passage route for a mountain lion on the move. Therefore, the potential to occur is low.

Northern harrier (Circus cyaneus hudsonius)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	SSC	None	Inhabits marshlands, wet meadows, dense grasslands, open riparian scrub and open riparian woodland habitats. May forage occasionally over other nearby habitat types. Hunts for a variety of prey items, consuming mostly small mammals.	<u>No</u>	No Potential (nesting) Low (foraging)	Although there are no CNDDB records within five miles from the Project site, and there is no suitable nesting habitat on the Project site. Suitable foraging habitat does occur on the Project site.
Northern red-diamond rattlesnake (Crotalus ruber <u>ruber</u>)	Group 2	SSC	None	Inhabits arid scrub, coastal chaparral, oak and pine woodlands, rocky grassland, cultivated areas. On the desert slopes of the mountains, it ranges into rocky desert flats.	No	Low	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site; however, it is considered to have low potential for occurrence due to minimal suitable habitat.
Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (Chaetodipus fallax fallax)	Group 2	SSC	None	Prefers loose, sandy, and gravelly soils, or mixed rocks, on moderate to steep rocky slopes with nearby shrubs. Habitats include coastal scrub, chamise-redshank chaparral, mixed chaparral, sagebrush, desert wash, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, pinyon-juniper and annual grassland. Known range extends north to the San Bernardino and San Gabriel mountains, east to the San Jacinto Mountains, and south into Baja California.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records exist within five miles of the Project site and there is no suitable habitat for this species on the Project site: therefore, this species is assumed to have no potential to occur.
Orange-throated whiptail (Cnemidophorus hyperythrus)	Group 2, MSCP- covered	SSC	None	Occurs widely in sage scrub, woodlands, grasslands, and chaparral communities within microhabitats of loose granitic soils and open areas for sunning and foraging.	<u>No</u>	Low	No CNDDB records exist within three miles from the Project site; however, areas with loose soils, rocks

							and patches of vegetation within the Project site provide suitable habitat for this species.
Pallid bat (Antozous pallidus).	Group 2	SSC	None	It forages within a number of habitat types, frequently by pursuing insects while walking on the ground. Most commonly associated with arid open scrub or grassland and gentle terrain with scattered rocky outcrops. Can also be found in higher elevation coniferous forests on steep terrain. Often occurs on oak- and sycamore-lined flood plain terraces at low elevations in the inland valleys. Uses some agricultural areas for foraging. Roosts in manmade structures, rock and sandstone crevices and caves, under tree bark, and in rodent burrows or crevices in the ground.	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting) Low (foraging)	No CNDDB records exist within three miles from the Project site. With an absence of suitable roosting substrates, this species is considered absent for roosting proposes, but it has a low potential to occur as a foraging species.
Pocketed free-tailed bat (Nyctinomops femorosaccus)	Group 2	SSC	None	Colonial species that roosts primarily in crevices in steep rugged cliffs, high rocky outcrops and slopes; it is readily found in abandoned quarries. May also roost in buildings, caves, and under roof tiles. It has been found in a wide variety of plant associations, including riparian, oak woodland, coniferous forest, open meadow and grassland, and coastal and desert scrublands, including over scrubby ridges, reservoirs, ponds, wetlands, and artificial lights.	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting) Low (foraging)	No CNDDB records exist within three miles from the Project site. With an absence of suitable roosting substrates, this species is considered absent for roosting proposes, but it has a low potential to occur as a foraging species. Although this species has been recorded in the vicinity, overall habitat quality is low, and there are

							no suitable roosting habitats onsite.
Red-shouldered hawk [Buteo lineatus]	Group 1	None	None	Iypically occurs in riparian woodlands, oak woodlands, eucalyptus groves, ranchland, orchards, and sometimes nesting in palm trees in urban areas.	<u>No</u>	<u>High</u>	Although this species was not observed during the survey, suitable foraging and nesting habitat exists on the Project site.
Ringtail (Bassariscus astutus)	Group 2	None	None	Occurs in chaparral, oak woodland, coniferous forest, riparian areas, or palm oases, typically where steep vertical rock surfaces or tree trunks provide readily climbable escape routes.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records are known within five miles of the Project site, but suitable habitat is present in the oak woodlands. Therefore, this species has a low potential to occur on the Project site.
Riverside fairy shrimp (Streptocephalus woottoni)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	None	FE	Restricted to vernal pool communities with deeper pools that retain water for medium to long durations.	No	Absent No Potential	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site; however, vernal pools do not exist within the Project site. Therefore, this species is presumed absent has no potential to occur on the Project site.
Rufous-crowned sparrow (Aimophila ruficeps canescens)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>	Found in coastal lowlands and foothills in sage scrub, open or burned chaparral, and grassland with scattered shrubs. Typical habitat is fairly steep south-facing slopes with about 50% cover of low	<u>No</u>	Low	Three CNDDB records exist within two miles of the Project site, but suitable habitat is largely not present.

				shrubs. Sage scrub on gentle rolling hillsides is even more favorable but now greatly reduced and fragmented.			Therefore, this species has a low potential to occur on the Project site.
San Diego banded gecko (Coleonyx variegatus abbottii)	Group 1	SSC	None	Prefers rocky areas in coastal sage and chaparral.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records are known within five miles of the Project site, and there is no suitable habitat onsite. Therefore, this species is assumed to have no potential to occur on the Project site.
San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (Lepus californicus bennettii)	Group 2	SSC	None	Occurs in open habitats, primarily including grasslands, Riversidean sage scrub, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, Great Basin sagebrush, desert scrub, and juniper and oak woodlands. Although widespread, the jackrabbit can be characterized as ranging from relatively uncommon to locally common.	No	Low	This species has been documented to occur within the vicinity of the Project site. This species has a low potential to occur within the Project site due to limited suitable habitat and frequency of anthropogenic disturbances on site.
San Diego desert woodrat (Neotoma lepida intermedia)	Group 2	SSC	None	Usually occurs around large boulder outcrops in coastal sage scrub and chaparral from sea level to pinyon-juniper woodland (but not coniferous forest) at higher elevations, and desert scrub.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records are known within five miles of the Project site, and there is no suitable habitat onsite. Therefore, this species is assumed to have no potential to occur on the Project site.

San Diego fairy shrimp (Branchinecta sandiegonensisi)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	None	FE	Restricted to vernal pool communities with deeper pools that retain water for medium to long durations.	No	Absent No Potential	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site; however, suitable vernal pools do not exist within the Project site. Therefore, this species is presumed absent has no potential to occur on the Project site.
San Diego horned lizard (Phrynosoma blainvillii)	Group 2, MSCP- covered	SSC	None	Inhabits open areas of sandy soil and low vegetation in valleys, foothills and semiarid mountains. Found in grasslands, coniferous forests, woodlands, and chaparral, with open areas and patches of loose soil. Often found in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered shrubs and along dirt roads, and frequently found near ant hills.	No	Absent No Potential	This species has been documented near the Project site; however, it is presumed absent from the site there is no potential for it to occur due to the lack of suitable habitat and prey (sandy soils and lack of harvester ants) ebserved within the Project site.
San Diego ringneck snake (Diadophis punctatus similis)	Group 2	None	None	Prefers moist areas in wet meadows, rocky hillsides, gardens, farmland, grassland, chaparral, mixed coniferous forests, and woodlands.	No	Low	Although no CNDDB record exists within five miles of the Project site, marginally suitable habitat is present in the gardens and disturbed areas. Therefore, this species has a low potential to occur on the Project site.

Sharp-shinned hawk (Accipiter striatus)	Group 1	None	None	Found in a wide variety of habitats, but more frequently in areas with trees or tall shrubs than in those without them. Any place that concentrates flocks of small birds such as house finches, house sparrows, white-crowned sparrows, or juncos is likely to attract the hawk. In the desert the species is found mainly at oases, in developed areas, and in mesquite thickets.	<u>No</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	Although this species was not observed during the field survey suitable foraging habitat exists on the Project site.
Silvery legless lizard (Anniella pulchra pulchra)	Group 2	SSC	None	Occurs in moist, loose soils with some plant cover in coastal sand dunes, suburban gardens, chaparral, pineoak woodlands, stream terraces with sycamores, cottonwoods, or oaks, oak woodlands, Joshua/juniper woodland, mixed conifer forest, desert scrub, sandy washes, and alluvial fans.	No.	Low	No CNDDB records are known within five miles of the Project site, but suitable habitat may be present in pockets of looser soils. Therefore, this species has a low potential to occur on the Project site.
Small-footed myotis (Myotis ciliolabrum)	Group 2	None	None	Occurs in mesic and arid conifer forests, associated with rock outcrops, talus, clay banks; also riparian woodland.	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting) Low (foraging)	No CNDDB records exist within five miles from the Project site. With limited suitable roosting substrates, this species has no potential for roosting proposes, but it has a low potential to occur as a foraging species.

Southern grasshopper mouse (Onychomys torridus ramona)	Group 2	SSC	None	Typically found in open habitats, including native perennial grasslands and coastal sage scrub to the west of the mountain and alluvial fans and desert scrub to the east.	No	No Potential	No CNDDB records are known within five miles of the Project site and no suitable habitat is present. Therefore, this species has no potential to occur on the Project site.
Southern mule deer [Odocoileus hemionus]	Group 2, MSCP- covered	None	None	In Southern California, inhabits a wide array of habitats from coastal sage scrub to chaparral, oak woodland, riparian woodland, and montane conifer-hardwood forest in the mountains and riparian woodland and desert scrub on the east slope of the mountains. Tend to use south-facing slopes in summer.	<u>No</u>	Moderate	This species is likely present in the surrounding areas and may traverse through the Project site during dispersal and foraging opportunities.
Southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax trailii extimus)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	<u>SE</u>	E	Restricted to riparian woodlands along streams and rivers with mature, dense stands of willows, cottonwoods, or smaller spring fed or boggy areas with willows or alders.	No	No Potential	No CNDDB records exists within five miles from the Project site and no suitable nesting habitat is present. Therefore, this species is assumed to have no potential to occur.

Spotted bat [Euderma maculatum]	Group 2	SSC	None	Typically occurs in rugged, rocky, arid to semi-arid habitats ranging from ponderosa pine to open scrublands and deserts. Usually roosts in high cliffs near wide expanses of open habitat. In mountains typically forages along the forested edges of meadows, marshes and other clearings. In deserts, foraging occurs along riparian corridors. Appears to move from higher elevations in summer to lower elevations in fall and winter.	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting and foraging)	No CNDDB records exist within five miles from the Project site. With an absence of suitable roosting substrates, this species has no potential for roosting proposes. With a paucity of regional observations, this species may also be assumed to have no potential as a foraging species.
Stephens' kangaroo rat (Dipodomys stephensi)	Group 1	ST	FE	Occurs primarily in low-growing annual and perennial grassland habitats, but may occur in coastal scrub or sagebrush with sparse canopy cover and low herbaceous growth, or in disturbed areas. Preferred perennials are buckwheat and chamise; preferred annuals are brome grass and filarees.	No	Absent No Potential	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site and portions of the site contain very small patches of annual grasses with sparse canopy cover; however, due to the lack of diagnostic kangaroo rat burrows, very limited suitable habitat and frequent mechanical raking, this species is presumed absent from there is no potential for this species to occur on the Project site.
Townsend's big-eared bat (Corynorhinus townsendii)	Group 2	<u>SSC</u>	<u>None</u>	Found in a variety of habitats from scrub deserts to pine and piñon-	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting)	No CNDDB records exist within five miles from the Project site.

				iuniper forests, prefers mesic habitats; Roosts in caves, mines, tunnels, flumes, buildings, bridges and large tree cavities. Regularly switches roost sites, in summer and winter, based on temperature, resource availability, and/or disturbance. Preferred foraging is among the foliage of trees and shrubs in mosaics of forested and edge habitats, including riparian zones, but tends to avoid open grasslands.		Low (foraging)	With limited suitable roosting substrates, this species has no potential for roosting proposes, but it has a low potential to occur as a foraging species.
Tricolored blackbird (Agelaius tricolor)	Group 1, MSCP- covered	SCE. SSC	None	Nests in colonies and prefers freshwater marshes dominated by cattails or bulrushes and occasionally in willows, blackberries, thistles and nettles. Breedina habitat now includes diverse upland and agricultural areas. Small breeding colonies in southern California occur at lakes, reservoirs, and parks surrounded by urban development. Adults from such colonies may forage in nearby undeveloped uplands.	<u>No</u>	No Potential (nesting) Low (foraging)	No nesting records are known within three miles of the Project site, and there were no suitable nesting areas on the Project site. Therefore, this species is assumed to have no potential for nesting and a low potential for foraging purposes.
Turkey vulture (Cathartes aura)	Group 1	None	None	Found in a wide array of habitats including open country, woods, deserts and foothills. Occur most commonly in open or semi-open habitats, especially within a few miles of rocky or wooded areas providing secure nesting sites. Turkey vultures generally avoid densely forested regions.	Yes	Present	One individual of this species was observed flying within 150 feet of the Project site. The Project site only provides suitable foraging habitat and does not provide suitable nesting sites for the turkey vulture.

Vermillion flycatcher (Pyrocephalus rubinus)	Group 1	SSC	None	Generally occurs within riparian corridors in arid country, savanna, ranches. In some areas may be found in dry grassland or desert with scattered trees, but much more frequent near water: short trees along streams, edges of ponds. Winter strays in the southeast are in open clearings or brushy areas near water.	No	Absent No Potential	Due to lack of suitable habitat, this species is presumed to be absent there is no potential for this species to occur from on the Project side. There is a very low potential for this species to pass through during winter migration on its way to more suitable habitat, however there is no suitable nesting habitat within the Project limits or adjacent areas.
Western bluebird (Sialia mexicana)	Group 2, MSCP- covered	None	None	Scattered trees, open conifer forests, farms; in winter, semi-open terrain, brush, deserts. Breeds in semi-open areas including pine woods, oak woods, streamside groves, ranch country, sometimes in pinyon-juniper woods, but avoiding hot dry regions. Winters in many kinds of open or semi-open habitats, especially in pinyon-juniper, also in desert, farmland, others.	Yes	Present	Two individuals of this species were observed foraging with the project site. Suitable nesting cavities were not observed, but there is potential for suitable nesting sites to exist within trees on site or other suitable cavities in old buildings, etc.

Western red bat (Lasiurus blossevilli)	Group 2	SSC	None	Roost primarily in the foliage of shrubs or riparian trees, particularly willows, cottonwoods, oaks and sycamores, but may also be found in non-native vegetation such as tamarisk, eucalyptus, bougainvillea, and have rarely been recorded using caves. Day roosts are commonly in edge habitats adjacent to streams or fields, in orchards, and sometimes in urban areas. Roost sites are generally hidden from view from all directions except below; lack obstruction beneath, allowing the bat to drop downward for flight; lack lower perches that would allow visibility by predators; have dark ground cover to minimize solar reflection; have nearby vegetation to reduce wind and dust; and are aenerally located on the south or southwest side of a tree. Foraging occurs along river and stream courses but also along	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting) Low (foraging)	Three CNDDB records exist within four miles from the Project site. With limited suitable roosting substrates, this species has no potential for roosting proposes, but it has a low potential to occur as a foraging species.
Western spadefoot (Spea hammondii)	Group 2	SSC	None	neighborhoods, and around artificial lighting. Prefers open areas with sandy or gravelly soils, in a variety of habitats including mixed woodlands, grasslands, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, sandy washes, lowlands, river floodplains, alluvial fans, playas, alkali flats, foothills, and mountains. Rainpools without bullfrogs, fish, or crayfish are necessary for breeding.	No	Low	This species has been documented within the vicinity of the Project site. However, suitable moist sandy or gravelly soils were not observed during the survey. Suitable nonbreeding and breeding habitat exists in adjacent areas to the southwest and west of the Project site

							but not within the Project limits. However, there is a low probability that spadefoot toads could utilize the site as upland habitat. Suitable breeding habitat for this species is absent from the Project site.
White-tailed kite [Elanus caeruleus]	Group 1	<u>FP</u>	None	Typically found in savanna, open woodlands, marshes, desert grassland, partially cleared lands, and cultivated fields. Kites typically nest in the upper third of trees that may be 10–160 feet tall. These can be open-country trees growing in isolation, or at the edge of or within a forest.	<u>No</u>	Low	No CNDDB records are known within five miles of the Project site, but there is suitable foraging habitat onsite. Therefore, this species has low potential to occur on the Project site.
Yellow-breasted chat [Ictera virens]	Group 1	SSC	None	This migratory species utilizes riparian woodlands, riparian scrub and tall, dense vegetation adjacent to riparian and wetland systems for nesting and foraging purposes.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records exists within five miles from the Project site and there is no suitable nesting habitat on the Project site.
Yellow warbler (Dendroica petechial brewsteri)	Group 2	SSC	None	Breeds in shrubby thickets and woods, particularly along watercourses and in wetlands.	<u>No</u>	No Potential	No CNDDB records exists within five miles from the Project site and there is no suitable nesting habitat on the Project site.
Yuma myotis (Myotis yumanensis)	Group 2	None	<u>None</u>	Occurs in a wide range of habitats, but most often in association with rivers, creeks, ponds, and reservoirs.	<u>No</u>	No Potential (roosting)	Three CNDDB records exist within four miles from the Project site. With

		Roosts in a variety of cavities in rocks, caves, mines, trees, and manmade structures. Forages mostly over open water and along river and stream courses, but also in dry stands of oak woodlands and native scrub habitat.		(foraging)	limited suitable roosting substrates, this species has no potential for roosting proposes, but it has a low potential to occur as a foraging species.
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SE- State listed as Endangered ST - State listed as Threatened

SCE - State candidate for listing as Endangered

SCT - State candidate for listing as Threatened

CDFW-SSC CDFW Species of Special Concern CDFW-FP CDFW Fully Protected

MSCP – covered by the Multiple Species Conservation Plan NE - MSCP Narrow Endemic species

FE - Federally listed as Endangered FT - Federally listed as Threatened

FC - Federal candidate species

APPENDIX D

Representative Photos







Photo 1: Southwest-facing overview, from northeast corner, of Disturbed Habitat.



Photo 2: Northwest-facing overview, from southeast corner, of Disturbed Habitat.





Photo 3: Northeast-facing overview, from southwest corner, of Disturbed Habitat and Developed/Ornamental Habitat.



Photo 4: View of house and other structures situated in the northwest corner of the Project site.





Photo 5: Southeast-facing overview of the Project site showing mechanically raked soil following fire fuel reduction operations.